



4/10/2013

Dear Kevin Brady,

The following letter describes our firm's strong support for EAct Section 179D. It is our strong belief that comprehensive tax reform must include this provision for commercial building energy efficiency.

EAct 179D Drives Energy Efficiency and Cost Savings

Our staff has undergone training on EAct and on processes to integrate EAct into our projects. Our staff understands the efficiency targets established by EAct and the technologies which tend to achieve those targets. As a result of our projects, buildings frequently operate 25-60% more efficiently than the ASHRAE 2001 standard on which EAct benefits are based. This results in material cost savings to both public and commercial building owners in your state and jurisdiction.

Building Retrofits Provide Large Employment Opportunities

Building retrofits require enormous skilled and semi-skilled work forces. The role EAct plays in cost-justifying projects therefore plays a direct role in supporting a major source of employment in your area.

Lighting retrofits require lighting designers, laborers to remove and dispose existing fixtures, distribution centers to store the new lighting material, laborers to stage the new material near the job site and electricians to install the new fixtures.

HVAC retrofits require engineers for project system design, substantial U.S. manufacturing activity (most HVAC equipment is heavy and made in the U.S.), U.S. steel procurement and HVAC mechanics to install.



The building envelope involves a wide variety of manufactured and workshop materials including roofs, walls, windows, doors, foundations and insulation. In addition to the labor required to create these products, large numbers of roofers, carpenters, installers and laborers are needed to handle the material and incorporate it into a building.

Conclusion:

EPAct 179D helps cost-justify projects with the most energy-efficient technologies possible. This is often particularly true in public buildings, where our firm does a great deal of work. The resulting cost savings to building owners is material. Likewise, the energy projects EPAct helps drive our major sources of local employment.

For these reasons, we strongly feel comprehensive tax reform must include an extension of EPAct 179D.

Best Regards,

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